

REMARKS

This Amendment is in reply to the Final Office Action mailed on October 8, 2004. Claims 1, 3, 4, 9, 11-14, 18, 25 and 26 have been amended. Claims 1-26 remain pending in this application. No new matter has been added. Entry and reconsideration of the amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

Claims 1-26 were rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out the claimed invention. Specifically, the Examiner states that claim 1 appears as if something is missing. Also, claims 1, 4, 9, 11-14 and 18 lack antecedent basis because no other weight was previously recited. In claim 25 “equivalent heaters” is indefinite.

The Applicants have amended the claims as suggested by Examiner Fortuna via a phone interview on September 17, 2004. Claims 1, 3, 4, 9, 11-14, 18 and 26 were amended to delete “additional.” In claim 25, the limitation “or equivalent heaters” was deleted. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph is respectfully requested.

Appl. No. 09/403,912
Amdt. dated January 4, 2005
Reply to Office Action of October 8, 2004

Allowable Subject Matter

The Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 1-26 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejections under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph. Accordingly, the suggested amendments have been made and the application should now be in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks it is submitted that the Examiner's objections and rejections have been overcome and should be removed and the present application should now be in condition for allowance.

The Applicants note that there is no further indication that the drawings are acceptable. The Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner provide indication that the drawings are accepted by the Examiner in the next formal communication.

Should any changes to the claims and/or specification be deemed necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned to discuss the same.

It is believed that the present amendment is being timely submitted. However, if it is determined that any fee is required for the entry of this amendment, the Commissioner is hereby authorised to charge said fee to Deposit Account No. 50-0518 in the name of Steinberg & Raskin, P.C.

An early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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